

Department of Juvenile Justice

Overview of Program Changes and Impact on Recidivism

Presentation to Senate Finance Public
Safety Subcommittee

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January 25, 2008

Juvenile Correctional Center (JCC) Populations

- Current population is under 1,000 (Was 1,462 in October 1999)
- Commitments have dropped from 1,463 in FY2000 to 863 in FY2007
- Since amendments made at 2000 General Assembly, to be committed a juvenile must have been found guilty of felony, or of a class 1 misdemeanor (but only with 3 or more prior class 1 misdemeanors or a prior felony)
- Fewer commitments but longer average lengths of stay
- Current population is smaller but more difficult

JCC Populations (cont.)

- Almost 30% of current JCC population was committed from Circuit Court (juveniles transferred and convicted as adults)
- Over 60% require mental health treatment
- Over 1/3 are 18 years old or older (40% will be 18 by release date)
- Over 38% of commitments last year were for felonies against persons which is up from 25% in 2003

Decrease in Intake Cases From FY2006 to FY2007

- Total intakes for class 1 misdemeanants and felonies decreased by 3.0%
- Intakes for violent (person) felonies decreased 2.9%

Changing the Environment

- Focus on preparing residents to return home
- REACH – new incentive based behavioral management system
- Unit management
- Improved coordination with Department of Correctional Education
- Assessment and revision to substance abuse treatment
- Increased socialization (intramural programming; cognitive based programming)

Preparing for Reentry

- Pilot reentry through local detention
- Creation of specialized transition parole officers
- MOU with Department of Rehabilitative Services
- Beaumont transitional housing and programming (opens this spring)

Preparing for Reentry (cont.)

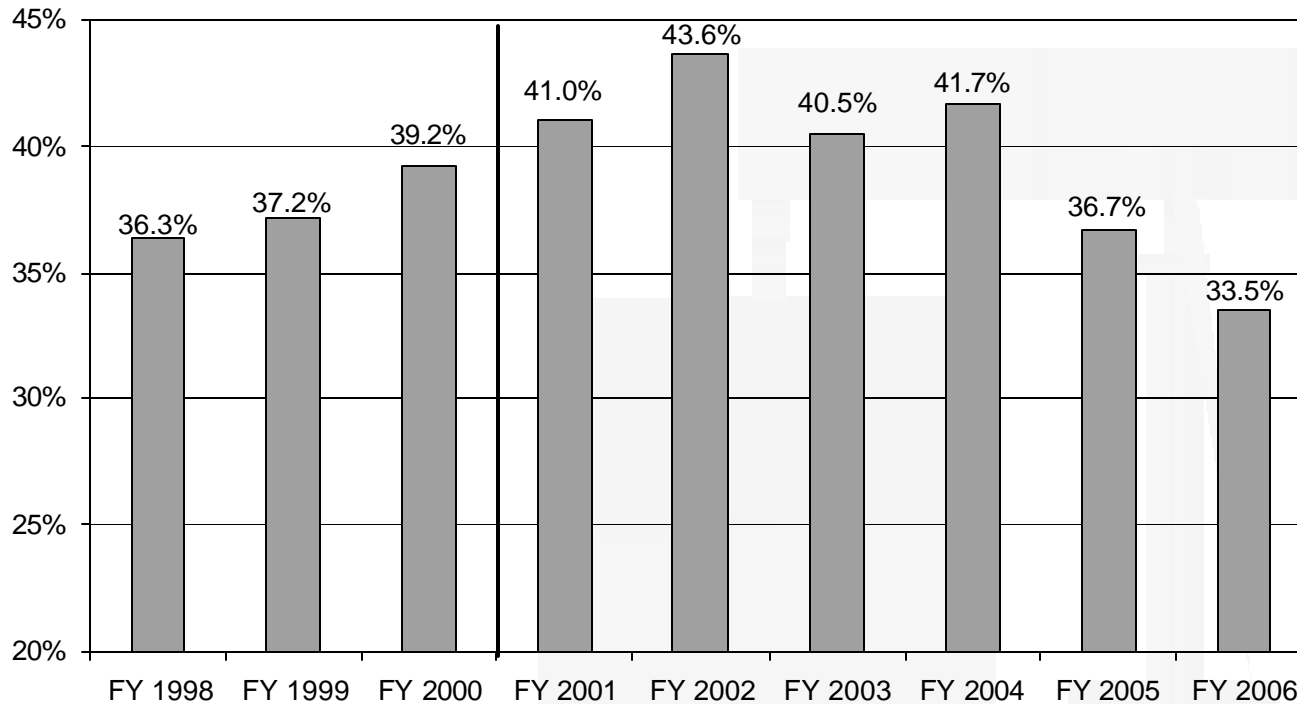
- Mental Health transition planning
- Work release
- Additional parole assessment for major offenders
- Implementation of 'Phoenix' social and anti-gang educational program

Results

- **Recidivism has declined over 8 percentage points in past 2 years: 41.7% to 33.5%** (new offenses consist of approx. 2/3 felonies, 1/3 misdemeanors)
 - (Recidivism definition – conviction for new class 1 misdemeanor or felony committed within 12 months following release)
- **33% reduction in reportable serious incidents between FY2006 and FY2007**
- **26.7% reduction in workers' compensation claims related to contact with residents**
 - **(37.7% decrease in medical costs for WC claims)**

12-Month Reconviction Rates

JCC Releases FY 1998- FY 2006



*The line denotes the amendment of §16.1-278.8.14 which modified the commitment criteria to a minimum of four misdemeanors

Sex Offender Recidivism

- 513 sex offenders were released from Juvenile Correctional Centers from FY2002 through FY2006
- Each sex offender was tracked from the date of release through FY2007
- Total of 13 releasees were arrested and convicted of a new sex offense
- Of the 13 new offenses, 10 were felonies and 3 were misdemeanors

Sex Offenders Recidivism (cont.)

<u>Release Year</u>	<u># Released</u>	<u># New Sex Offenses Through FY2007</u>
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2002	115	3
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2003	92	1
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2004	98	6
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2005	101	1
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2006	<u>107</u>	<u>2</u>
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Totals	513	13
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How Does Virginia Compare with Missouri?

(2006 statistics)

	<u>MO</u>	<u>VA</u>
Age at which adult	17	18
Age can transfer to adult court	12	14
Age 10-19 Census (2005)	772,375	992,207
<u>Population as of Feb. 2006:</u>		
Commitments UCR Part I violent	110	312
Commitments UCR Part I property	513	260
Commitments UCR Part II	<u>564</u>	<u>407</u>
Total Commitments	1,197	979

VA Census 10-19 year olds is 28.5% higher than MO.

VA committed population included 18.2% fewer juveniles

VA commitments are for more serious offenses (does not incarcerate status offenders or misdemeanants below class 1)

Commitment Criteria

- Virginia - Guilty of felony or class 1 misdemeanor with 3 or more prior, separate class 1 misdemeanors
- Missouri – Guilty of felony or any class misdemeanor, or a status offense

Recidivism Measures

Definitions:

- Missouri – reincarceration in state juvenile center within 12 months of release from parole (does not count offenses committed while on parole)
- Virginia – reconviction for class 1 misdemeanor or felony committed within 12 months following release from JCC (whether or not reincarcerated; includes offenses committed while on parole)

Comparing Recidivism

- Missouri - 7.3% of those completing parole are reincarcerated in a state juvenile facility within 12 months
- Missouri – 8.6% are incarcerated in state prison within 3 years after release from parole
- Virginia – 6.2% are reincarcerated in state juvenile facility within 12 months of release from JCC
- Virginia – 3.1% are reincarcerated in DOC facility within 3 years of release from JCC
- Note – Missouri rate does not include those committing crimes while still on parole; Virginia's rate includes crimes committed whether or not still on parole